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(54) Title: RHEOLOGY MODIFICATION OF POLYMERS

(57) Abstract: The present invention is a rheology-modifiable polymeric composition. The resulting rheology-modified polymer is prepared from at least one polymer which upon forming free radicals preferentially degrades or carbon-carbon crosslinks. The present invention permits suppression of the preferential reaction while permitting the polymer to be coupled through a free-radical trapping species. Suppressing the undesirable degradation or carbon-carbon crosslinking reaction and permitting the desirable coupling reaction yield a rheology-modified polymer.

